



LOUISIANA LABOR MARKET INFORMATION



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BATON ROUGE
P.O. Box 94094

LOUISIANA
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Phyllis C. Mouton, Secretary
JULY, 1989

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THE LOUISIANA ECONOMIC SITUATION

Total nonagricultural employment in Louisiana was estimated at 1,513,800 for July, a decrease of 7,100 from the June revised level, but an increase of 12,800 over the July figure a year ago. A decrease in both durable and nondurable goods resulted in lower employment for manufacturing. Local education experienced a seasonal decrease which contributed to lower employment for nonmanufacturing.

Durable goods employment for July, estimated at 75,600, was 800 lower than last month. Less demand for certain fabricated metal products was largely responsible for the decrease in the fabricated metal products industry. A temporary reduction of work force for some firms in the electrical and electronic equipment segment resulted in a downturn for this industry.

Employment in the nondurable goods segment of manufacturing, at 96,600, was 700 below the June revised level. Food and Kindred products employment was down due in large part to decreases in the miscellaneous foods and kindred products segment. Printing and publishing employment rose by 200 in July.

Estimated employment in the nonmanufacturing industries during July was 1,341,600, down 5,600 from the June revised level. Mining employment rose by 200 in July. General building construction and several special trades experienced employment decreases in July. Transportation and public utilities experienced an increase in employment levels as a result of more activity in trucking and warehousing and more business in certain segments of water transportation. Trade employment moved up due mostly to more business in the food stores segment of retail trade. A decrease in real estate employment was instrumental in the lower level for the finance, insurance and real estate industry. Lower employment for hotels and social services contributed to the downturn in services employment. Government employment was down due to a decrease in local education employment.

Average weekly earnings of Louisiana's 125,800 production workers in manufacturing increased from \$459.73 in June to \$460.24 in July, an increase of \$0.51, but a decrease of \$6.75 from July of last year. Average hourly earnings were \$.017 higher in July than last month and five cents higher than July of last year. Weekly hours averaged 41.5 during July, a decrease of 0.6 hours from last month's figure.

Total unemployment for Louisiana stood at 191,100. The unemployment rate for July was 9.7 percent. The comparable national unemployment rate for July was 5.3 percent. The state's civilian labor force increased to 1,964,800 workers. Estimated total employment increased to 1,773,700 for the current month.

LOUISIANA
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT
(In Thousands by Industry)

	Net Change from				
	July 1989*	June 1989**	July 1988**	June 1989	July 1988
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	1,513.8	1,520.9	1,501.0	- 7.1	+12.8
MINING	57.3	57.1	57.1	+ 0.2	+ 0.2
Oil and Gas Extraction	54.6	54.5	54.5	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Nonmetallic Minerals	2.7	2.6	2.6	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
CONSTRUCTION	89.5	90.2	86.8	- 0.7	+ 2.7
MANUFACTURING	172.2	173.7	170.4	- 1.5	+ 1.8
Durable Goods	75.6	76.4	75.6	- 0.8	0
Lumber and Wood Products	12.4	12.4	12.7	0	- 0.3
Furniture and Fixtures	0.6	0.5	0.6	+ 0.1	0
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	5.8	5.9	5.5	- 0.1	+ 0.3
Primary Metal Industries	3.4	3.4	3.0	0	+ 0.4
Fabricated Metal Products	12.5	12.7	12.5	- 0.2	0
Machinery, Except Electrical	9.1	9.3	9.1	- 0.2	0
Electrical & Electronic Equipment	6.1	6.5	6.8	- 0.4	- 0.7
Transportation Equipment	23.3	23.3	23.3	0	0
Other Durable Goods (1)	2.4	2.4	2.1	0	+ 0.3
Nondurable Goods	96.6	97.3	94.8	- 0.7	+ 1.8
Food & Kindred Products	19.7	20.8	20.6	- 1.1	- 0.9
Apparel & Other Textile Products	10.7	10.8	9.5	- 0.1	+ 1.2
Paper & Allied Products	12.6	12.5	12.1	+ 0.1	+ 0.5
Printing & Publishing	10.1	9.9	9.9	+ 0.2	+ 0.2
Chemicals & Allied Products	27.8	27.7	26.9	+ 0.1	+ 0.9
Petroleum and Coal Products	11.2	11.2	11.2	0	0
Petroleum Refining	10.3	10.3	10.3	0	0
Other Nondurable Goods (2)	4.5	4.4	4.6	+ 0.1	- 0.1
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC UTILITIES	109.8	108.7	107.4	+ 1.1	+ 2.4
Railroad Transportation	5.0	5.0	5.2	0	- 0.2
Transportation, ex. Railroads	64.2	63.2	61.7	+ 1.0	+ 2.5
Water Transportation	26.2	25.7	24.7	+ 0.5	+ 1.5
Communication & Electric, Gas & Sanitary Ser.	40.6	40.5	40.5	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Communication, Exc. U S Postal Service	18.2	18.1	18.0	+ 0.1	+ 0.2
Electric, Gas & Sanitary Services	22.4	22.4	22.5	0	- 0.1
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	364.3	364.1	360.1	+ 0.2	+ 4.2
Wholesale Trade	82.5	82.6	82.6	- 0.1	- 0.1
Wholesale Trade-Durable Goods	45.7	45.8	46.2	- 0.1	- 0.5
Wholesale Trade-Nondurable Goods	36.8	36.8	36.4	0	+ 0.4
Retail Trade	281.8	281.5	277.5	+ 0.3	+ 4.3
Gen. Merchandise, Apparel & Acc.	60.4	60.2	57.7	+ 0.2	+ 2.7
Food Stores	56.0	55.6	54.6	+ 0.4	+ 1.4
Auto Dealers & Service Stations	30.0	29.9	30.1	+ 0.1	- 0.1
Eating & Drinking Places	85.4	85.7	85.4	- 0.3	0
Other Retail Trade	50.0	50.1	49.7	- 0.1	+ 0.3

LOUISIANA - CONTINUED)
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT
(In Thousands by Industry)

	July 1989*	June 1989**	July 1988**	Net Change from	
				June 1989	July 1988
FINANCE, INSURANCE AND REAL ESTATE	80.2	80.6	82.4	- 0.4	- 2.2
Banking	22.8	22.8	23.7	0	- 0.9
SERVICES	329.6	330.3	326.4	- 0.7	+ 3.2
Hotels & Other Lodging Places	20.9	21.3	21.0	- 0.4	- 0.1
Personal Services	14.6	14.5	15.0	+ 0.1	- 0.4
Business Services	63.1	63.0	61.5	+ 0.1	+ 1.6
Auto Repair, Services & Garages	9.7	9.6	9.6	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Miscellaneous Repair Services	5.1	5.2	5.4	- 0.1	- 0.3
Amusement & Recreation Services	9.7	9.8	9.9	- 0.1	- 0.2
Health Services	107.6	107.3	105.0	+ 0.3	+ 2.6
Legal Services	16.9	16.9	15.9	0	+ 1.0
Educational Services	14.8	15.0	16.2	- 0.2	- 1.4
Social Services	18.4	18.8	18.1	- 0.4	+ 0.3
Membership Organizations	25.9	25.8	26.4	+ 0.1	- 0.5
Miscellaneous Services	15.9	16.0	15.8	- 0.1	+ 0.1
GOVERNMENT	310.9	316.2	310.4	- 5.3	+ 0.5
Federal	36.5	36.7	36.3	- 0.2	+ 0.2
State and Local	274.4	279.5	274.1	- 5.1	+ 0.3
State	86.0	86.6	86.8	- 0.6	- 0.8
Local	188.4	192.9	187.3	- 4.5	+ 1.1

* Preliminary

**Revised

(1) Includes Professional equipment and misc. manufacturing industries.

(2) Includes Leather, Rubber and Textile products.

All estimates of Nonagricultural wage and salaried workers in this publication are prepared in cooperation with U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, with the exception of the Lake Charles MSA which is prepared under the auspices of the Louisiana Department of Labor, and include all full-time and part-time workers who were employed during the pay period including the 12th of the month.

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING AND SELECTED NONMANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES IN LOUISIANA

	Average Weekly Earnings		Average Weekly Hours		Average Hourly Earnings	
	July '89*	June '89**	July '89*	June '89**	July '89*	June '89**
ALL MANUFACTURING (1)						
Durable Goods	\$460.24	\$459.73	41.5	42.1	\$11.09	\$10.92
Lumber & Wood Products	417.00	419.89	41.7	42.2	10.00	9.95
Stone, Clay, & Glass Pdts.	366.24	354.90	42.0	42.1	8.72	8.43
Fabricated Metal Products	368.92	348.88	40.9	40.9	9.02	8.53
Machinery, ex. Electrical	443.32	440.83	44.6	45.4	9.94	9.71
Electric & Electronic Equip.	391.02	397.81	42.0	43.1	9.31	9.23
Transportation Equipment	501.83	582.51	41.1	44.5	12.21	13.09
	439.39	435.49	40.2	40.1	10.93	10.86
Nondurable Goods						
Food & Kindred Products	496.84	494.68	41.3	42.1	12.03	11.75
Apparel & Other Textile Pdts.	302.40	303.07	40.0	40.9	7.56	7.41
Paper & Allied Products	191.30	215.07	34.1	38.2	5.61	5.63
Printing & Publishing	382.72	540.68	39.7	40.5	13.57	13.35
Chemicals & Allied Pdts.	727.97	388.61	35.8	36.8	10.40	10.56
Petroleum & Coal Products	716.96	714.75	45.9	45.7	15.86	15.64
Petroleum Refining	724.80	723.38	45.9	45.9	15.62	15.76
		734.40	45.7	45.9	15.86	16.00
MINING	558.27	550.97	46.6	46.3	11.98	11.90
COMMUNICATIONS & PUBLIC UTILITIES	536.76	529.17	42.0	41.7	12.78	12.69
BANKING	281.56	279.38	38.1	37.5	7.39	7.45

(1) Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 125,800 full- and part-time workers in manufacturing and 89,200 nonsupervisory employees in communications, public utilities, mining and banking. The averages are computed on a "Gross" basis and reflect overtime, late shift work and incentive rates.

LOUISIANA CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE SUMMARY

(in thousands)	PRELIMINARY JULY 1989			REVISED JUNE 1989			REVISED JULY 1988					
	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate
LOUISIANA	1,964.8	1,773.7	191.1	9.7	1,940.3	1,755.1	185.2	9.5	1,975.0	1,768.9	206.1	10.4
METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREAS:												
Alexandria 1/	62.1	55.5	6.6	10.7	61.4	55.7	5.7	9.2	61.9	55.7	6.2	10.0
Baton Rouge 2/	275.0	250.9	24.1	8.8	270.3	247.3	23.0	8.5	276.1	250.4	25.7	9.3
Houma - Thibodaux 3/	72.3	66.2	6.1	8.4	71.5	65.6	5.9	8.3	71.5	64.2	7.3	10.1
Lafayette 4/	102.5	94.0	8.5	8.3	100.4	92.3	8.1	8.0	103.3	94.1	9.2	8.9
Lake Charles 5/	78.5	71.1	7.4	9.5	76.9	69.5	7.4	9.7	78.7	70.2	8.5	10.8
Monroe 6/	69.9	63.5	6.4	9.2	69.3	63.1	6.2	8.9	70.8	63.5	7.3	10.3
New Orleans 7/	615.4	561.6	53.8	8.7	607.0	555.0	52.0	8.6	615.4	559.0	56.4	9.2
Shreveport 8/	160.4	144.5	15.9	9.9	160.1	144.6	15.5	9.7	167.1	150.3	16.8	10.1

1/ Rapides Parish only. 2/ Includes Ascension, East Baton Rouge, Livingston, and West Baton Rouge parishes. 3/ Includes Lafourche and Terrebonne parishes. 4/ Includes Lafayette and St. Martin parishes. 5/ Calcasieu Parish only. 6/ Ouachita Parish only. 7/ Includes Jefferson, Orleans, St. Bernard, St. Tammany, St. Charles and St. John the Baptist parishes. 8/ Includes Bossier and Caddo parishes.

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

The Consumer Price Index, sometimes called the "Cost of Living Index", is a monthly measure of the average change in prices in a fixed quantity of goods and services.

All Urban Consumers	Index	% Change from Prior Month	% Change from Prior Year
July 1988	118.8		
July 1989	126.4	+ 0.2	+ 6.0

CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE, OTHER AREAS

PRELIMINARY JULY 89

REVISED JUNE 89

	LABOR FORCE	EMPL.	UNEMP	RATE	LABOR FORCE	EMPL.	UNEMP	RATE
CROWLEY (ACADIA)	22,600	20,125	2,475	10.9	22,500	20,200	2,300	10.3
OAKDALE (ALLEN)	9,775	8,700	1,075	10.9	9,475	8,375	1,100	11.5
NAPOLEONVILLE (ASSUMPTION)	6,375	5,500	875	13.8	6,275	5,425	850	13.7
BUNKIE (AVOYELLES)	16,250	13,750	2,500	15.4	16,150	13,700	2,450	15.1
DERIDDER (BEAUREGARD)	13,850	12,525	1,325	9.6	13,450	12,150	1,300	9.7
ARCADIA (BIENVILLE)	7,050	6,300	750	10.6	7,100	6,275	825	11.7
COLUMBIA (CALDWELL)	4,100	3,675	425	10.4	3,975	3,575	400	9.9
CAMERON (CAMERON)	4,950	4,650	300	6.1	4,950	4,625	325	6.4
JONESVILLE (CATAHOULA)	4,325	3,575	750	17.3	4,200	3,500	700	16.9
HOMER (CLAIBORNE)	8,225	7,375	850	10.2	8,425	7,400	1,025	12.3
FERRIDAY (CONCORDIA)	10,700	9,250	1,450	13.5	10,875	9,475	1,400	12.8
MANSFIELD (DESOTO)	12,950	11,550	1,400	10.8	13,200	11,775	1,425	10.8
LAKE PROVIDENCE (E. CARROLL)	4,225	3,400	825	19.5	4,400	3,525	875	20.1
CLINTON (EAST FELICIANA)	7,775	6,925	850	10.9	7,400	6,625	775	10.5
VILLE PLATTE (EVANGELINE)	13,650	12,050	1,600	11.8	13,500	11,975	1,525	11.3
WINNSBORO (FRANKLIN)	8,175	7,175	1,000	12.3	8,175	7,125	1,050	12.8
COLFAX (GRANT)	7,350	6,450	900	12.2	7,050	6,250	800	11.5
NEW IBERIA (IBERIA)	26,550	23,875	2,675	10.1	26,325	23,600	2,725	10.4
PLAQUEMINE (IBERVILLE)	11,675	9,900	1,775	15.2	11,375	9,775	1,600	14.1
JONESBORO (JACKSON)	6,750	6,175	575	8.4	6,700	6,075	625	9.2
JENNINGS (JEFFERSON DAVIS)	11,675	10,250	1,425	12.3	11,500	10,100	1,400	12.2
JENA (LASALLE)	6,725	6,050	675	10.1	6,550	5,900	650	10.0
RUSTON (LINCOLN)	17,350	16,425	925	5.3	18,100	17,200	900	4.9
TALLULAH (MADISON)	5,675	4,800	875	15.3	5,650	4,825	825	14.5
BASTROP (MOREHOUSE)	12,700	11,150	1,550	12.2	12,725	11,175	1,550	12.2
NATCHITOCHES (NATCHITOCHES)	16,825	15,050	1,775	10.5	16,525	14,725	1,800	10.9
POINT-A-LA-HACHE (PLAQUEM.)	8,675	7,875	800	9.2	8,625	7,850	775	9.1
NEW ROADS (POINTE COUPEE)	7,675	6,150	1,525	19.8	7,525	6,125	1,400	18.6
COUSHATTA (RED RIVER)	4,375	3,875	500	11.4	5,025	3,850	1,175	23.2
RAYVILLE (RICHLAND)	8,975	7,975	1,000	11.2	8,800	7,825	975	11.1
MANY (SABINE)	10,175	9,250	925	9.1	9,875	9,075	800	8.2
GREENSBURG (ST. HELENA)	2,825	2,425	400	13.9	2,925	2,550	375	12.7
LUTCHER (ST. JAMES)	7,950	6,950	1,000	12.7	7,750	6,725	1,025	13.1
OPELOUSAS (ST. LANDRY)	31,675	27,075	4,600	14.5	31,175	26,650	4,525	14.5
MORGAN CITY (ST. MARY)	25,200	22,275	2,925	11.6	25,000	22,225	2,775	11.1
HAMMOND (TANGIPAHOA)	39,075	33,600	5,475	14.0	38,200	33,200	5,000	13.1
ST. JOSEPH (TENSAS)	3,225	2,875	350	11.0	3,175	2,825	350	11.0
FARMERVILLE (UNION)	8,600	7,700	900	10.4	8,575	7,725	850	10.0
ABBEVILLE (VERMILION)	19,350	17,100	2,250	11.6	18,975	16,825	2,150	11.4
LEESVILLE (VERNON)	18,950	17,400	1,550	8.2	18,675	17,125	1,550	8.3
BOGALUSA (WASHINGTON)	18,775	16,700	2,075	11.0	17,300	15,275	2,025	11.8
MINDEN (WEBSTER)	20,000	17,450	2,550	12.7	20,000	17,550	2,450	12.2
OAK GROVE (WEST CARROLL)	4,825	3,925	900	18.8	4,950	3,925	1,025	20.6
ST. FRANCISVILLE (W. FELIC.)	4,175	3,750	425	10.2	4,225	3,825	400	9.6
WINNFIELD (WINN)	5,950	5,400	550	9.1	6,075	5,500	575	9.4

NOTE: LABOR MARKET AREAS ARE DESIGNATED BY NAME OF PRINCIPAL TOWN, BUT INCLUDE ALL OF PARISH IN PARENTHESES.

ABOVE DATA ROUNDED TO NEAREST 25 EXCEPT MSAS AND STATEWIDE WHICH ARE ROUNDED TO NEAREST 100. SUBTOTALS MAY NOT ADD TO TOTALS DUE TO ROUNDING. RATES COMPUTED FROM UNROUNDED DATA.

ALEXANDRIA AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	July 1989*	June 1989**	July 1988**	Net Change From	
				June 1989	July 1988
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	45.2	45.7	45.1	- 0.5	+ 0.1
MANUFACTURING	3.5	3.5	3.3	0	+ 0.2
Durable Goods	2.0	2.0	1.9	0	+ 0.1
Lumber & Wood Products	0.4	0.4	0.4	0	0
Other Durable Goods	1.6	1.6	1.5	0	+ 0.1
Nondurable Goods	1.5	1.5	1.4	0	+ 0.1
Food & Kindred Products	0.5	0.5	0.5	0	0
Other Nondurable Goods	1.0	1.0	0.9	0	+ 0.1
MINING	0.2	0.2	0.2	0	0
CONSTRUCTION	2.2	2.2	2.4	0	- 0.2
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	2.1	2.1	2.1	0	0
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	10.6	10.7	11.0	- 0.1	- 0.4
Wholesale Trade	1.8	1.9	1.9	- 0.1	- 0.1
Wholesale Trade-Durable Goods	1.1	1.2	1.1	- 0.1	0
Wholesale Trade-Nondurable Goods	0.7	0.7	0.8	0	- 0.1
Retail Trade	8.8	8.8	9.1	0	- 0.3
General Merchandise	1.7	1.7	1.8	0	- 0.1
Auto Dtrs. & Svc. Sta.	1.0	1.0	1.0	0	0
Eating & Drinking Places	2.5	2.5	2.5	0	0
Other Retail Trade	3.6	3.6	3.8	0	- 0.2
FINANCE, INS., & REAL ESTATE	2.6	2.6	2.6	0	0
SERVICES	11.6	11.6	11.3	0	+ 0.3
Health Services	5.3	5.2	5.1	+ 0.1	+ 0.2
GOVERNMENT	12.4	12.8	12.2	- 0.4	+ 0.2
Federal	3.1	3.1	2.8	0	+ 0.3
State and Local	9.3	9.7	9.4	- 0.4	- 0.1
State	4.4	4.4	4.6	0	- 0.2
Local	4.9	5.3	4.8	- 0.4	+ 0.1

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in the Alexandria MSA was estimated at 45,200 for July. This estimate was 500 less than last month and 100 more than July, 1988.

Employment in manufacturing remained unchanged from the previous month, but increased by 200 from July of last year. The increase was in other durable goods and other nondurable goods.

Nonmanufacturing employment for July was estimated at 41,700. This was a decline of 500 from last month, mainly due to the seasonal reduction of noninstructional school personnel. Compared to July, 1988, nonmanufacturing employment declined by 100.

BATON ROUGE AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	July 1989*	June 1989**	July 1988**	Net Change From June 1989 July 1988	
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	219.3	218.7	217.7	+ 0.6	+ 1.6
MANUFACTURING	19.8	19.8	19.2	0	+ 0.6
Durable Goods	4.4	4.4	4.2	0	+ 0.2
Lumber and Wood Products	0.5	0.5	0.5	0	0
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	0.8	0.8	0.7	0	+ 0.1
Fabricated Metal Products	1.3	1.3	1.2	0	+ 0.1
Other Durable Goods	1.8	1.8	1.8	0	0
Nondurable Goods	15.4	15.4	15.0	0	+ 0.4
Food & Kindred Products	1.6	1.6	1.6	0	0
Printing & Publishing	1.4	1.4	1.4	0	0
Chemicals and Petroleum Products	10.8	10.8	10.6	0	+ 0.2
Other Nondurable Goods	1.6	1.6	1.4	0	+ 0.2
MINING	1.0	1.0	1.0	0	0
CONSTRUCTION	24.4	24.0	24.3	+ 0.4	+ 0.1
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	10.4	10.4	10.5	0	- 0.1
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	53.3	53.2	52.7	+ 0.1	+ 0.6
Wholesale Trade	11.9	11.9	11.6	0	+ 0.3
Wholesale Trade-Durable Goods	8.4	8.4	8.2	0	+ 0.2
Wholesale Trade-Nondurable Goods	3.5	3.5	3.4	0	+ 0.1
Retail Trade	41.4	41.3	41.1	+ 0.1	+ 0.3
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	13.5	13.4	13.7	+ 0.1	- 0.2
Banking	3.4	3.3	3.3	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
SERVICES	46.3	46.3	46.0	0	+ 0.3
GOVERNMENT	50.6	50.6	50.3	0	+ 0.3
Federal	2.4	2.4	2.2	0	+ 0.2
State and Local	48.2	48.2	48.1	0	+ 0.1
State	25.4	25.4	25.3	0	+ 0.1
Local	22.8	22.8	22.8	0	0

BATON ROUGE AREA
AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	July '89*	June '89**	July '88**	July '89*	June '89**	July '88**	July '89*	June '89**	July '88**
All MANUFACTURING (1)	\$575.52	\$555.99	\$575.02	44.0	43.0	43.1	\$13.08	\$12.91	\$13.28
Petro-Chemicals	728.23	700.95	744.38	45.8	43.7	45.5	15.97	16.04	16.36

Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 13,200 production workers and are computed on a "gross" basis and reflect overtime, late shift work and incentive rates.

BATON ROUGE AREA

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment rose to a level of 219,300 in July. This figure was 600 greater than a month ago, and 1,600 higher than the year-ago level. Employment gains were reported in nonmanufacturing with the majority of increases in construction.

Manufacturing employment, estimated at 19,800, remained unchanged from the prior month. Compared to the year-ago estimate, employment was up 600, with significant gains in both durable and nondurable goods.

Nonmanufacturing employment rebounded over the month, gaining 600 workers. This increase came after two consecutive months of decline. Compared to one year ago, total nonmanufacturing employment was up 1,000. Construction employment was 400 higher in July with more business in both general building contractors-nonresidential and heavy construction. Trade employment was up 100 due to seasonal increases in department stores. Finance, insurance, and real estate showed an increase of 100 due to increased employment in banking. Total government, estimated at 50,600, remained unchanged from the previous month.

Average weekly earnings of the Baton Rouge MSA's 13,200 production workers in all manufacturing was \$575.52 for July, an increase of \$19.53 from the June average. Compared to the prior year, weekly earnings were up \$0.50. Average weekly hours at 44.0, increased by 1.0 hours. Average hourly earnings at \$13.08, increased by \$0.15 per hour. Overtime worked at premium pay contributed to these changes.

The total civilian labor force for the Baton Rouge MSA moved upward to 275,000 for July. Estimated employment rose to 250,900, while unemployment climbed to 24,100. The local unemployment rate for July was 8.8 percent.

The Baton Rouge Job Service Office served 3,121 individuals with new or renewal applications. A total of 2,669 referrals to current openings resulted in 327 placements during the month of July.

HOUMA - THIBODAUX AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	July 1989*	June 1989**	July 1988**	Net Change From	
				June 1989	July 1988
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	55.3	55.5	54.0	- 0.2	+ 1.3
MANUFACTURING	4.5	4.6	4.8	- 0.1	- 0.3
Durable Goods	2.9	2.9	3.1	0	- 0.2
Nondurable Goods	1.6	1.7	1.7	- 0.1	- 0.1
MINING	6.3	6.3	6.0	0	+ 0.3
CONSTRUCTION	1.9	1.9	1.8	0	+ 0.1
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	6.3	6.2	6.2	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Water Transportation	4.0	3.9	3.9	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	14.0	14.1	14.0	- 0.1	0
Wholesale Trade	3.2	3.3	3.2	- 0.1	0
Retail Trade	10.8	10.8	10.8	0	0
Eating & Drinking Places	3.3	3.3	3.4	0	- 0.1
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	2.2	2.2	2.2	0	0
SERVICES	9.7	9.6	9.2	+ 0.1	+ 0.5
GOVERNMENT	10.4	10.6	9.8	- 0.2	+ 0.6
Federal	0.5	0.5	0.5	0	0
State and Local	9.9	10.1	9.3	- 0.2	+ 0.6
State	2.8	2.8	2.2	0	+ 0.6
Local	7.1	7.3	7.1	- 0.2	0

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in the Houma-Thibodaux MSA in July tapered off to 55,300, a level 200 below June. The decrease was equally divided between manufacturing and nonmanufacturing. Since July, 1988, nonagricultural employment added 1,300 workers.

Manufacturing employment totaled 4,500, down 100 from the previous month. The nondurable goods segment was down due to seasonal factors affecting seafood processing. The durable goods segment was unchanged.

Water transportation edged up in most major segments. Wholesale trade eased down in the nondurable goods sector. Services displayed a small increase spread through several industries. Local government made normal seasonal downward adjustments in employment by educational services.

Estimated unemployment was 6,100 in July. Unemployment presently comprises 8.4 percent of the civilian labor force for the Houma-Thibodaux area. Recipients of regular unemployment benefits totaled 870.

LAFAYETTE AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	July 1989*	June 1989**	July 1988**	Net Change From	
				June 1989	July 1988
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	86.4	85.7	86.7	+ 0.7	- 0.3
MANUFACTURING	6.9	7.0	7.2	- 0.1	- 0.3
Durable Goods	1.7	1.8	1.9	- 0.1	- 0.2
Nondurable Goods	5.2	5.2	5.3	0	- 0.1
Food & Kindred Products	1.6	1.6	1.6	0	0
MINING	11.6	11.4	11.6	+ 0.2	0
CONSTRUCTION	3.6	3.8	3.3	- 0.2	+ 0.3
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	6.2	5.9	6.1	+ 0.3	+ 0.1
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	23.3	23.5	23.8	- 0.2	- 0.5
Wholesale Trade	5.5	5.5	5.4	0	+ 0.1
Wholesale Trade-Durable Goods	3.2	3.2	3.2	0	0
Wholesale Trade-Nondurable Goods	2.3	2.3	2.2	0	+ 0.1
Retail Trade	17.8	18.0	18.4	- 0.2	- 0.6
General Merchandise	2.9	2.9	3.0	0	- 0.1
Food Stores	2.7	2.7	2.7	0	0
Auto. Dlrs. & Serv. Sta.	1.8	1.8	1.7	0	+ 0.1
Other Retail Trade	10.4	10.6	11.0	- 0.2	- 0.6
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	3.5	3.5	3.6	0	- 0.1
Banking	1.0	1.0	1.1	0	- 0.1
SERVICES	18.5	18.7	18.7	- 0.2	- 0.2
GOVERNMENT	12.8	11.9	12.4	+ 0.9	+ 0.4
Federal	0.8	0.8	0.8	0	0
State and Local	12.0	11.1	11.6	+ 0.9	+ 0.4
State	4.1	4.0	4.0	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Local	7.9	7.1	7.6	+ 0.8	+ 0.3

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in the Lafayette MSA was estimated at 86,400, an increase of 700 from last month's revised figure.

Mining increased by 200 from last month's estimate due to fairly stable oil prices. Transportation and public utilities rose by 300 over last month due to gains in motor freight and public utilities. Government was up by 900 due to summer youth hiring primarily at the local government level.

Manufacturing was down by 100 from June's estimate due to a decline in the durable goods sector. Construction dropped by 200 from the previous month's estimate with the decrease centered in the special trade contractors sector. Trade was down by 200 due to less employment in eating and drinking places. Services was down by 200 due to private education employment declining.

All other sectors of the economy showed no change from last month.

LAKE CHARLES AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	July 1989*	June 1989**	July 1988**	Net Change From	
				June 1989	July 1988
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	61.6	61.1	60.8	+ 0.5	+ 0.8
MANUFACTURING	10.7	10.7	11.2	0	- 0.5
Durable Goods	2.3	2.3	2.8	0	- 0.5
Stone, Clay & Glass Prod.	0.1	0.1	0.1	0	0
Other Durable Goods	2.2	2.2	2.7	0	- 0.5
Nondurable Goods	8.4	8.4	8.4	0	0
Food & Kindred Products	0.2	0.2	0.2	0	0
Chemical & Pet. Products	7.7	7.7	7.7	0	0
Other Nondurable Goods	0.5	0.5	0.5	0	0
MINING	0.9	0.9	1.0	0	- 0.1
CONSTRUCTION	5.5	5.1	4.3	+ 0.4	+ 1.2
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	4.3	4.1	4.0	+ 0.2	+ 0.3
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	14.1	14.2	13.8	- 0.1	+ 0.3
Wholesale Trade	2.6	2.6	2.6	0	0
Retail Trade	11.5	11.6	11.2	- 0.1	+ 0.3
Gen. Mdse., App. & Acc.	2.5	2.5	2.2	0	+ 0.3
Auto Dlrs. & Serv. Sta.	1.2	1.3	1.2	- 0.1	0
Eating & Drinking Places	3.6	3.6	3.7	0	- 0.1
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	2.7	2.7	2.8	0	- 0.1
Banking	1.0	1.0	1.0	0	0
SERVICES	12.2	12.2	12.2	0	0
Hotels & Other Lodg. Places	0.5	0.5	0.5	0	0
Personal Services	0.6	0.6	0.7	0	- 0.1
GOVERNMENT	11.2	11.2	11.5	0	- 0.3
Federal	0.6	0.6	0.6	0	0
State and Local	10.6	10.6	10.9	0	- 0.3
State	2.9	3.0	3.1	- 0.1	- 0.2
Local	7.7	7.6	7.8	+ 0.1	- 0.1

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in the Lake Charles MSA was estimated at 61,600, an increase of 500 from the June, 1989 level.

Construction rose by 400 over last month's figure due to employment growth in the residential, commercial and special trade contractors sectors of the economy. Transportation and public utilities increased by 200 in July due to water transportation employment expanding.

Trade declined by 100 from the previous month due to less employment in automobile dealers and service stations.

All other sectors of the economy were unchanged from last month.

MONROE AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	July 1989*	June 1989**	July 1988**	Net Change From	
				June 1989	July 1988
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	54.7	54.7	54.6	0	+ 0.1
MANUFACTURING	7.1	7.2	6.9	- 0.1	+ 0.2
Durable Goods	1.8	1.9	1.8	- 0.1	0
Lumber & Wood Products	0.2	0.2	0.2	0	0
Other Durable Goods	1.6	1.7	1.6	- 0.1	0
Nondurable Goods	5.3	5.3	5.1	0	+ 0.2
Food & Kindred Products	0.7	0.7	0.7	0	0
Chemical & Allied Products	0.5	0.5	0.5	0	0
Other Nondurable Goods	4.1	4.1	3.9	0	+ 0.2
MINING	0.5	0.4	0.5	+ 0.1	0
CONSTRUCTION	2.3	2.3	2.5	0	- 0.2
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	2.9	2.9	2.9	0	0
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	13.7	13.7	14.2	0	- 0.5
Wholesale Trade	3.6	3.5	3.9	+ 0.1	- 0.3
Retail Trade	10.1	10.2	10.3	- 0.1	- 0.2
Gen. Mdse., App. & Acc.	2.3	2.4	2.5	- 0.1	- 0.2
Auto Dealers & Serv. Sta.	1.2	1.2	1.1	0	+ 0.1
Eating & Drinking Places	3.3	3.3	3.3	0	0
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	4.2	4.2	4.4	0	- 0.2
Banking	0.9	0.9	1.0	0	- 0.1
SERVICES	12.2	12.1	11.7	+ 0.1	+ 0.5
Hotels & Other Lodg. Places	0.6	0.6	0.5	0	+ 0.1
Personal Services	0.6	0.6	0.5	0	+ 0.1
Health Services	5.4	5.4	5.3	0	+ 0.1
GOVERNMENT	11.8	11.9	11.5	- 0.1	+ 0.3
Federal	0.6	0.6	0.6	0	0
State and Local	11.2	11.3	10.9	- 0.1	+ 0.3
State	4.1	4.0	3.7	+ 0.1	+ 0.4
Local	7.1	7.3	7.2	- 0.2	- 0.1

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in the Monroe MSA was estimated at 54,700. This estimate was unchanged from June but increased 100 above July, 1988.

Manufacturing, estimated at 7,100, was 100 below the June estimate, but 200 above July, 1988. The monthly loss was in durable goods, while the over-the-year gain was in nondurable goods.

Nonmanufacturing gained 100 to an estimated 47,600 in July. Gains of 100 in both mining and services were partially offset by a decrease of 100 in government.

NEW ORLEANS AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	July	June	July	Net Change From	
	1989*	1989**	1988**	June 1989	July 1988
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	522.4	522.4	519.3	0	+ 3.1
MANUFACTURING	43.7	43.9	43.4	- 0.2	+ 0.3
Durable Goods	22.9	22.8	22.8	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Lumber and Wood Products	0.5	0.5	0.5	0	0
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	1.3	1.3	1.3	0	0
Fabricated Metal Products	2.1	2.1	2.3	0	- 0.2
Machinery	2.8	2.7	2.8	+ 0.1	0
Transportation Equipment	14.2	14.2	13.9	0	+ 0.3
Ship & Boatbuilding & Repairing	10.5	10.5	10.2	0	+ 0.3
Other Durable Goods	2.0	2.0	2.0	0	0
Nondurable Goods	20.8	21.1	20.6	- 0.3	+ 0.2
Food & Kindred Products	5.9	6.2	5.9	- 0.3	0
Apparel & Other Textile Products	1.8	1.8	1.7	0	+ 0.1
Paper & Allied Products	0.7	0.7	0.7	0	0
Printing & Publishing	3.7	3.7	3.7	0	0
Chemicals and Allied Products	4.8	4.8	4.8	0	0
Petroleum & Coal Products	3.5	3.5	3.5	0	0
Other Nondurable Goods	0.4	0.4	0.3	0	+ 0.1
MINING	15.3	15.3	15.2	0	+ 0.1
Oil & Gas Extraction	14.4	14.4	14.3	0	+ 0.1
CONSTRUCTION	22.9	23.0	23.2	- 0.1	- 0.3
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	44.4	44.6	44.6	- 0.2	- 0.2
Railroad Transportation	1.4	1.4	1.5	0	- 0.1
Water Transportation	13.6	13.5	13.2	+ 0.1	+ 0.4
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	135.1	135.0	134.6	+ 0.1	+ 0.5
Wholesale Trade	33.0	33.1	32.2	- 0.1	+ 0.8
Wholesale Trade-Durable Goods	18.7	18.9	18.6	- 0.2	+ 0.1
Wholesale Trade-Nondurable Goods	14.3	14.2	13.6	+ 0.1	+ 0.7
Retail Trade	102.1	101.9	102.4	+ 0.2	- 0.3
General Merchandise	13.3	13.3	13.8	0	- 0.5
Food Stores	20.2	20.3	20.0	- 0.1	+ 0.2
Eating & Drinking Places	34.6	34.5	34.5	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	33.2	33.3	34.0	- 0.1	- 0.8
Banking	7.2	7.2	7.3	0	- 0.1
SERVICES	137.2	138.0	136.3	- 0.8	+ 0.9
Hotels & Other Lodging Places	13.2	13.2	12.8	0	+ 0.4
Health Services	38.1	38.1	37.4	0	+ 0.7
GOVERNMENT	90.6	89.3	88.0	+ 1.3	+ 2.6
Federal	16.3	16.4	16.2	- 0.1	+ 0.1
State and Local	74.3	72.9	71.8	+ 1.4	+ 2.5
State	17.7	17.7	17.9	0	- 0.2
Local	56.6	55.2	53.9	+ 1.4	+ 2.7

NEW ORLEANS AREA
AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	July '89*	June '89**	July '88**	July '89*	June '89**	July '88**	July '89*	June '89**	July '88**
All MANUFACTURING	\$432.02	\$435.49	\$443.87	40.3	40.7	41.6	\$10.72	\$10.70	\$10.67
Durable Goods	379.03	376.14	390.19	39.4	39.1	40.9	9.62	9.62	9.54
Stone, Clay, & Glass Pmts.	308.14	278.10	288.00	31.0	30.0	32.0	9.94	9.27	9.00
Fabricated Metal Products	394.39	373.64	502.88	39.4	38.8	48.4	10.01	9.63	10.39
Ship & Boatbuilding and Repairing	351.53	345.98	356.49	38.8	38.4	40.1	9.06	9.01	8.89
Nondurable Goods	490.64	499.80	504.56	41.3	42.5	42.4	11.88	11.76	11.90
Food & Kindred Products	319.98	300.00	350.61	37.6	36.9	40.3	8.51	8.13	8.70
Apparel & Other Textile Pmts.	187.15	234.84	190.05	33.6	40.7	35.0	5.57	5.77	5.43
Paper & Allied Products	416.76	435.94	398.72	46.0	47.8	44.7	9.06	9.12	8.92
Printing & Publishing	362.67	371.42	389.66	38.5	37.9	39.6	9.42	9.80	9.84
Chemicals & Allied Pmts.	761.89	760.11	766.82	46.4	47.3	46.0	16.42	16.07	16.67

Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 30,800 production workers and are computed on a "gross" basis and reflect overtime, late shift work and incentive rates.

NEW ORLEANS AREA

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in the New Orleans MSA in July remained at 522,400, the same level as in June. Increases in some industry divisions were offset by losses in others. Over the year, nonagricultural employment gained 3,100 workers, with the largest increases in services and local government.

Manufacturing employment totaled 43,700, down 200 from the previous month. Machinery was up 100 over the previous month due to more business. Food and kindred products was down 300 due to seasonal factors affecting the seafood processing industry.

Mining showed no change from the previous month. Construction adjusted downward. Transportation and public utilities lost workers primarily in the public utilities segment. Small losses in wholesale trade were offset by gains in retail trade. Finance, insurance and real estate moved down. Services displayed a sizable decrease mostly due to the completion of a locally filmed motion picture. Government made normal seasonal gains with employment of summer workers in local government.

Production workers in the area earned an average of \$432.02 per week in July, down \$3.47 from last month's average. Compared to last year, weekly earnings are down \$11.85 in manufacturing. Average weekly hours were 40.3, down 0.4 of an hour from the previous month. Average hourly earnings were \$10.72, up two cents from the previous month.

Estimated unemployment for July was 53,800. The unemployment rate was 8.7 percent. Recipients of regular unemployment insurance benefits totaled 9,157.

SHREVEPORT AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	July 1989*	June 1989**	July 1988**	Net Change From	
				June 1989	July 1988
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	126.3	127.5	129.9	- 1.2	- 3.6
MANUFACTURING	17.8	17.9	18.1	- 0.1	- 0.3
Durable Goods	12.7	12.9	12.9	- 0.2	- 0.2
Lumber and Wood Products	0.4	0.4	0.5	0	- 0.1
Metals and Machinery	7.2	7.2	7.4	0	- 0.2
Primary and Fabricated Metals	2.1	2.1	1.7	0	+ 0.4
Machinery, Inc. Electrical	5.1	5.1	5.7	0	- 0.6
Other Durable Goods	5.1	5.3	5.0	- 0.2	+ 0.1
Nondurable Good	5.1	5.0	5.2	+ 0.1	- 0.1
Food & Kindred Products	0.8	0.7	0.8	+ 0.1	0
Printing & Publishing	1.3	1.3	1.3	0	0
Petroleum & Coal Products	0.7	0.7	0.8	0	- 0.1
Other Nondurable Goods	2.3	2.3	2.3	0	0
MINING	3.1	3.0	3.4	+ 0.1	- 0.3
CONSTRUCTION	6.2	6.4	6.7	- 0.2	- 0.5
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	8.2	8.1	8.1	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	31.7	31.5	32.1	+ 0.2	- 0.4
Wholesale Trade	7.4	7.3	7.5	+ 0.1	- 0.1
Retail Trade	24.3	24.2	24.6	+ 0.1	- 0.3
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	6.2	6.2	6.8	0	- 0.6
SERVICES	30.4	30.3	31.7	+ 0.1	- 1.3
GOVERNMENT	22.7	24.1	23.0	- 1.4	- 0.3
Federal	4.9	4.9	4.8	0	+ 0.1
State and Local	17.8	19.2	18.2	- 1.4	- 0.4
State	6.0	6.0	6.1	0	- 0.1
Local	11.8	13.2	12.1	- 1.4	- 0.3

SHREVEPORT AREA
AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	July '89*	June '89**	July '88**	July '89*	June '89**	July '88**	July '89*	June '89**	July '88**
ALL MANUFACTURING	\$463.27	\$476.85	\$473.88	41.4	42.5	41.1	\$11.19	\$11.22	\$11.53
Lumber and Wood Products	431.66	271.47	254.82	45.2	30.4	37.2	9.55	8.93	6.85
Metals and Machinery	464.41	503.32	491.87	47.1	49.2	43.8	9.86	10.23	11.23
Food and Kindred Products	316.50	403.88	285.19	42.2	46.0	40.8	7.50	8.78	6.99
Printing and Publishing	278.77	291.09	335.12	30.5	31.0	34.8	9.14	9.39	9.53
Petroleum and Coal Products	652.89	629.16	615.23	50.3	47.7	51.7	12.98	13.19	11.90

Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 12,900 production workers and are computed on a "gross" basis and reflect overtime, late shift work and incentive rates.

SHREVEPORT AREA

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

The nonagricultural wage and salary employment in the Shreveport MSA dropped from an estimated 127,500 in June to 126,300 in July. Most of this change occurred in nonmanufacturing with only a slight decrease in manufacturing.

The employment estimate in manufacturing declined from 17,900 in June to 17,800 in July. Job losses in the production of other durable goods were partially offset by a small employment gain in the nondurable goods sector. The employment estimate of 17,800 for July fell 300 below the July, 1988 job total.

The job losses in nonmanufacturing were primarily seasonal, showing payroll reductions in educational services as schools closed for the summer. Nonmanufacturing employment, estimated at 108,500, fell 1,100 below the June estimate of 109,600. In addition to job losses in the educational sector, construction jobs decreased over the month from 6,400 to 6,200. Trade provided the largest gain from June to July, increasing from 31,500 to 31,700. Small employment gains also occurred in mining, transportation and public utilities, and services sectors.

This area had an estimated 12,900 production workers in manufacturing that had average weekly earnings of \$463.27, down \$13.58 from the June average, and \$10.61 less than July, 1988. The average weekly hours declined to 41.4 hours, down 1.1 hours from last month, but an increase of 0.3 hours from the July, 1988 average. The average hourly earnings of \$11.19 are down from \$11.22 in June and \$11.53 in July, 1988.

The Shreveport MSA had a civilian labor force estimated at 160,400 in July, with 144,500 employed and 15,900 unemployed, giving an unemployment rate of 9.9 percent.

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